



Owens & Minor Announces Increased Cash Dividend for First Quarter 2006

Feb 02, 2006 /PRNewswire-FirstCall via COMTEX News Network/ -- Owens & Minor (NYSE: OMI) announced today that its board of directors approved the payment of the first quarter 2006 cash dividend in the amount of \$0.15 per share, a 15.4% increase over 2005. The cash dividend is payable on March 31, 2006 to shareholders of record as of March 15, 2006. The company currently has approximately 39,890,367 common shares outstanding.

"Part of our mission, vision and values at Owens & Minor is to create value for our shareholders, and we view dividends as an important component of this value," said G. Gilmer Minor, III, chairman of the board of Owens & Minor. "Therefore, we are pleased to provide this increased first quarter 2006 dividend to our shareholders."

Owens & Minor, Inc., (NYSE: OMI) a FORTUNE 500 company headquartered in Richmond, Virginia, is the leading distributor of national name-brand medical and surgical supplies and a healthcare supply chain management company. With a diverse product and service offering and distribution centers throughout the United States, the company serves hospitals, integrated healthcare systems, alternate care locations, group purchasing organizations, the federal government and consumers. Owens & Minor provides technology and consulting programs that enable healthcare providers to maximize efficiency and cost-effectiveness in materials purchasing, improve inventory management and streamline logistics across the entire medical supply chain -- from origin of product to patient bedside. The company also has established itself as a leader in the development and use of technology. For news releases, or for more information about Owens & Minor, visit the company Web site at <http://www.owens-minor.com>.

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